

SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Brandis Airfield

25X1A

EVALUATION 25X1X

PLACE OBTAINED

 25X1C

DATE OF CONTENT June to 14 July 1953

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 11 August 1953

REFERENCES 25X1C

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

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1. In June and early July 1953, Brandis airfield was occupied by Il-10s, 32 Li-2s, cargo gliders, and Po-2s. There was air activity almost every day. Five Il-10s which participated in the air activity had the Nos 11, 13, 16, 23 and 41. Formations of Li-2s towing cargo gliders were repeatedly observed. 1

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2. The following air activity was observed at the field between 6 and 14 July 1953:

6 July. Between 7 p.m. and midnight, flying was practiced by Il-10s. The weather was clear.

7 July. Between 6 a.m. and 8:30 a.m., 35 Li-2s and 6 twin-engine planes with cargo gliders were absent from the field. These aircraft headed west and returned later from the same direction.

8 July. During the morning, about 12 ground attack planes practiced formation flying and diving. There was similar air activity in the afternoon.

9 July. At about 6 a.m., 34 Li-2s and 6 twin-engine planes towing cargo gliders headed west. The planes returned from the west at about 9 a.m. Throughout the day, there was formation and local flying, by ground attack planes. In the afternoon, a Po-2 was also observed aloft.

10 July. Between 6:30 a.m. and 11 a.m., 34 Li-2s and 6 twin-engine planes towing cargo gliders were observed aloft. Between 11:30 a.m. and 5 p.m., Il-10s practiced formation flying and diving. A total of 37 Li-2s, 32 ground attack aircraft, 6 twin-engine planes, 6 cargo gliders, 4 Po-2s and 1 Yak-14 were counted at the field.

14 July. All Li-2s and the 6 twin-engine planes towing cargo gliders left the field and headed northeast. 1

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3. The combined army unit equipped with artillery, tanks, AT and AA guns, which had been observed in the woods southeast of the field on 6 July, was no longer seen on 9 July. Members of this unit were observed doing surveying work in the Polenz-Altenhain area on 1 and 2 July. Many soldiers of the unit were Mongolians. The officers and NCOs wore numerous war decorations. On the morning of 8 July, 60 railroad cars were observed at the field. 2

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1. [] Comment. Brandis airfield was previously occupied by a ground attack regiment equipped with IL-10s. After 19 June, a transport unit with about 35 Mi-4s and some IL-12s with one cargo glider each was also stationed at the field, most probably for an air landing and air transport exercise. This unit apparently left the field on 14 July 1953.

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2. [] Comment. According to previous observations by the same source, the army troops belong to the 20th Meck Div in the Jena-Weimar area and to the 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div in Plauen. The troops were possibly involved in the air landing and air transport exercises. They were possibly retransferred with the railroad cars observed on 8 July 1953.

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